IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Hughes et al. § Group Art Unit: 2615

§ § Exam

Examiner: Disler, Paul

Serial No.: 10/692,168

Filed: October 23, 2003

§ Confirmation No.: 1935

§ Attornov Dookst No.:

For: Method for Intelligent Volume

§ Attorney Docket No.: AUS920030630US1

Control

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

A fee of \$810.00 is believed to be required for the filing of a Request for Continued Examination. Please charge this fee to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No additional fees are believed to be necessary. If, however, additional fees are necessary, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and I authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

Preliminary to the continued examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

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